

CONDITIONS IN NORTHWEST MOST APPALLING IN HISTORY OF SECTION

Flames Defying all Resistance Rush Along at Rate of Seventy-five Miles an Hour— Supervisor Loses Three Hundred Out of Force of Six Hundred Men

Spokane, Aug. 23.—Three hundred fire fighters out of a total force of 600 men which has been battling with the flames in the burning white pine forests of northern Idaho are unaccounted for today. Government Forest Supervisor W. R. Weigle, in an interview at Wallace today declared his belief that nearly all of this entire number had perished.

"Out of my total force of 600 men, I have received word of the safety of only 300," said the supervisor.

"The others, when last heard from, were working in the districts where the flames have been fiercest, along the headwaters of the Couer d'Alene and the St. Joe. I am forced to the appalling conclusion that nearly all of these men have lost their lives."

"Never in my life," said Mr. Weigle, "have I seen conditions so appalling. The flames have defied all resistance and, rushing along at the rate of 75 miles an hour, have swept everything before them. Up and down gulches, across mountains and over deep ravines, they have leaped, leaving only death in their path."

Supervisor Weigle sent Ranger A. E. Holcomb today to open up the old Mullan road leading to the Bullion mine, where eight bodies are buried. These will be brought to Wallace tomorrow. Ten soldiers from Fort George Wright, left to aid in clearing the path.

A crew was sent out to the Big Fork of the Couer d'Alene where 12 bodies are buried under the ruins. This will necessitate the clearing of thirty miles of road to Wallace.

Besides the 12 dead at Big Fork three men are lying with broken legs and three others totally blinded. Dr. Max T. Smith of Wallace, is heading a relief expedition.

A dispatch from Mullan says that immediate danger to that camp has passed. The fires have eaten away all the dry brush on all sides of the town so that nothing but clear land lies between the fire district and the nearest buildings. Women and children left for Spokane and other towns and are safe now to return.

Heavy clouds are hanging over the district and rain is expected.

BRIDGES DESTROYED

Famous "S" and Carbot Hill Bridges Burned-- Rage at Kooskia

Missoula, Aug. 23.—The famous "S" bridge and the Carbot Hill bridge, both located between Wallace and Mullan, have been destroyed by the forest fires. At Lookout the Northern Pacific station was burned completely yesterday and the approaches to the Dorsey tunnel are gone. No report has been received from Selkirk today, but Sup. Fowler of the Northern Pacific and his forces left St. Regis early for the isolated station and will direct operations connected with track repairing which is to be started as soon as the necessary equipment reaches that place.

Incendiary Attempts. Locally reports are made that a number of incendiary attempts were made at St. Regis last night, unknown persons being charged with hurling burning brands among the buildings in the business district of the old town. No arrests have thus far been reported.

No positive report has been obtained of the situation at Henderson but it is said by refugees that little loss was experienced at that place. The Mann Lumber company saved all of its property which consisted of mills and many buildings together with piled lumber amounting to at least 10,000,000 feet.

Passenger Service Restored. Though passenger service has been inaugurated on the main line of the Northern Pacific, a temporary track having been constructed around the burned bridge at Tuscaw.

From the Bitter Root section no serious fires are reported. The smoke is lifting perceptibly here, at 11 o'clock this morning and the sun is almost visible.

Fire Rages Fiercely. Word was received this morning at the forestry department from Supervisor Penn who is stationed at Kooskia, Idaho, to the effect that the fires in that district are raging fiercely and are beyond control. High winds are prevailing. The fires have covered a district of some 50 miles square. The town of Troy, he reports, is threatened and the residents have requested that a company of troops be sent to that place. In Oregon gulch, immense loss is reported to the Big Bluff Mining company's property. The fire damage is said to have reached at least \$150,000 so far and the flames are still devouring property. Stev-

ens' camp on Windfall creek is reported destroyed, but no loss is said to have occurred. The Puget Sound railroad this morning outfitted two work and relief trains to go to the west end of the line to repair bridges and to seek out those refugees who fled when the flames spread over that district on Saturday night and Sunday.

Another Relief Expedition Starts. Another relief expedition is being started up the ill-fated Cedar Creek and a pack train is outfitting.

On the Idaho side furious fires are reported coming over the divide and heading toward Eight-Mile creek, east of Florence. This fire has a front of eighteen miles and is said to be extending along Deer Creek in the direction of Bonner. On the west side of the Bitter Root valley many fires are now reported. A late report from Supervisor Koch, who is at St. Regis, indicates that many of the men reported to have perished in Buford gulch are safe at St. Regis and are assisting in driving back the fires that threaten that town.

The Milwaukee officials say a fire is burning along Deep Creek above Iron Mountain, and is driving rapidly toward the town of Cobden.

ELK CITY
IS SAVED

By Heroism of Women Who Guard Homes at Risk of Lives

Spokane, Wash., Aug. 23.—That Elk City is still on the map and out of the reach of forest fires ravaging the surrounding country, which is ablaze for miles, is due solely to the heroism of the women of the town who, while the male population was fighting the advance of the conflagration, guarded their homes and the business houses, extinguishing a number of incipient blazes started by the brands carried from the burning forests. Many of them stayed on the roofs of the buildings all Saturday night, and but for their vigilance and bravery the town would before this have been a mass of smoking embers, for a fire once under headway would have swept the entire village, as the high wind prevailing would have rendered futile all efforts to subdue it.

The town is out of danger, but the conditions in the surrounding region are growing worse. The wind has again arisen to a gale and the adjacent mountains are a seething mass of flame.

The entire Iron mountain district is ablaze, and the fire on Squaw creek is burning with renewed fury.

The American river district is a gigantic furnace for miles. A number of outlying settlements, from which the inhabitants have fled, are certain of destruction, and it is reported that the plant of the American Eagle mine, one of the largest in the district, is burning.

Scores of square miles of territory are involved, and hundreds of men are wanted to assist in getting the conflagration under control. Conditions are epitomized in a brief message which came yesterday from Forest Ranger Purdy yesterday to Chief Ranger Brown at Grangeville. It says:

"Situation desperate. Whole country ablaze. Must have help to save property."

Now that Elk City is saved, the inhabitants are turning their attention to keeping the stage road open and a call was sent last night for horses on which to patrol the line, and twenty-five men were sent out this morning. A pack train and four horse wagons, with 25 men, left last night loaded with supplies, and another train left this morning.

The fire in the Clearwater reserve, according to advices received late last night by Major Fehn, is absolutely beyond control, and all hopes of subduing the blaze until it rains have been abandoned.

The pack train reported surrounded Sunday night reached a place of safety on Rocky Ridge yesterday, but are unable to reach the rangers' camp for which they were headed.

The fire on Old Man creek and the one on Selway, near Camp 62, have united, and no further efforts will be made to control them.

Antone, in Asotin county, Washington, is endangered by a forest fire which broke out Sunday, has been saved and the fires on Craig mountain are partially under control, but the situation there is still critical.

FIRE BULLETINS

Auburn, Cal., August 23.—Flames are raging over the upper end of Placer

Forest Rangers Bring Word of Death and Great Destruction

Spokane, Wash., Aug. 23.—The fires have swept past Wallace, the towns of the Couer d'Alene have passed the first stage of wild, unreasoning panic and the people have settled down with more or less composure to wait for the list of dead. The list is constantly growing as the forest rangers with red-rimmed eyes and blackened faces penetrate the trails now choked with fallen logs and burning word of fire-fighting crews cut off, camps wiped out, ranches and homesteaders caught in the path of the flames and mountain towns left in ashes.

Since the report of the Bullion mine tragedy no new deaths have been recorded. Forest Supervisor Weigle has heard from practically all of his forest rangers and expresses no alarm excepting for the isolated gangs of fire-fighters cut off from communication. He also worried about Ranger Nevitt, fighting fire with a large crew on Independence creek, from whom he has not heard for several days.

In Wallace the people have largely recovered from the shock of their narrow escape Saturday. A force of men has started to clear the ruins of the Couer d'Alene foundry, working in ashes still hot and the erection of a new building will be under way in a few days. Notices have been posted that mines at Burke and along the canyon will start tomorrow and miners are being called back to work. Before the week is over work will have been started on the reconstruction of half the buildings wiped out Saturday night. As fast as they can be assembled, bridge-building crews will be rushed to work. Hardly a bridge in the whole country around Wallace is left and the Oregon Railway & Navigation, Northern Pacific and Milwaukee lines are to some extent crippled. It is impossible to give any accurate or even approximate idea of the extent of the fires in the Couer d'Alene. The burned district generally speaking, extends east to Missoula, north to the headwaters of the St. Joe and in other directions nobody knows how far. From the tops of the hills everything as far as the eye can see is swept bare. Until the forest rangers now out report at headquarters here, there will be no accuracy in estimates of the damage.

Fear of contamination in Wallace water supply has caused the water company to send men up Placer creek and all its feeders clearing the streams of dead fish and charred logs. There has been no illness from use of the water as yet. It is said that insurance on the buildings destroyed here will total \$350,000,000. Losses are still estimated at about \$1,000,000. The Wallace City council last night appointed a committee to consider the relief of the homeless people. Offers of assistance have been received from many sources, but none has been accepted. Fires are reported all around Murray, but the town is still safe.

Chicago Livestock.

Chicago, Aug. 23.—Cattle—Receipts estimated at 70,000; market steady to strong. Bees, \$4.85@5.00; Texas steers, \$3.50@5.55; western steers, \$4.00@7.00; stockers and feeders, \$4.10@6.25; cows and heifers, \$2.00@6.60; calves, \$6.50@8.75.

Hogs—Receipts estimated at 13,000; market 50¢10¢ up. Light, \$8.75@9.25; mixed, \$8.25@8.90; heavy, \$7.50@8.80; rough, \$7.95@8.10; good to choice heavy, \$2.00@8.80; pigs, \$8.20@9.00; bulk of sales, \$8.40@8.70.

Sheep—Receipts estimated at 20,000; market strong and 10¢ up. Native, \$2.50@6.50; western, \$2.75@4.50; yearlings, \$4.50@5.60; lambs native, \$4.75@6.85; western, \$4.75@6.95.

Omaha Livestock.

Omaha, Aug. 23.—Cattle, receipts, 7,100; market steady to 10¢ higher; native steers 50¢@80¢; cows and heifers, 36¢@90¢; western steers, 37¢@67¢; cows and heifers, 27¢@47¢; canners, 22¢@32¢; stockers and feeders, 30¢@57¢; calves 6¢@50¢; bulls, 3¢@25¢.

Hogs—Receipts, 6,000; market 50¢10¢ higher, heavy, 8.40@8.80; mixed, 8.50@8.75; light, 8.80@9¢; pigs, 7.50@8.50; bulk, 8.50@8.75.

Sheep—Receipts, 2,700; market 10¢ lower. Yearlings, 4.50@4.80; wethers, 7.50@4.45; ewes, 3.50@4.10; lambs, 6¢@50¢.

Chicago Market.

Chicago, Aug. 23.—Close. Wheat—Sept. 99 3/4-47 3/4; May \$1.07 1/8. Corn—Sept. 60 3/4; Dec. 58 1/2-58 3/4; May 58 5/8.

Oats—Sept. 34 1/2; Dec. 36 3/4; May 39 5/8-34 1/2.

Pork—Sept. \$21.30; Oct. \$20.60; Jan. \$18.40.

Lard—Sept. \$11.92 1/2-24 3/4; Oct. \$12.92 1/2-24 3/4; Nov. \$11.45; January \$10.52 1/2.

Ribs—Sept. \$12.37 1/2; Oct. \$11.62 1/2.

Chicago Produce.

Chicago, Aug. 23.—Butter, steady; creameries, 24 1/2@29; dairies, 25@27. Eggs, steady; receipts, 6,744 cases, at mark cases included, 14 1/2@17 1/2; firsts, 20¢; prime firsts, 22¢; Cheeses, steady, dairies, 16 1/4; twins, 15 1/2; young Americans, 16 1/2; Longhorns, 16 1/4@12.

Sugar.

New York, Aug. 23.—Raw sugar, firm; muscovado, 9 test, 39¢; centrifugal, 96 test, 44¢; molasses sugar, 89¢; refined, steady.

Coffee, spot, firm; No. 7 Rio, 9 3/4; No. 4 Santos, 10 1/2.

DEATH LIST IS GROWING

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THEODORE ROOSEVELT STARTS ON SPEAKING TOUR THOROUGH COUNTRY

Each Day Mapped Out to Minute---Trip Regarded as of Political Significance-- Fourteen Speeches Will Deal with Public Questions

Oyster Bay, N. Y., Aug. 23.—Theodore Roosevelt left here this morning for New York, where he will make his start for his big speaking tour through the country. The colonel's trip to the city was made in a motor car, and not a few early risers in the village bade him goodbye as the machine whirled through the streets. From this morning when he leaves the Grand Central station, in the private car, Republic, until Sept. 11, when the Republic is due back, Col. Roosevelt will be kept constantly on the move making speeches, attending receptions and dinners, reviewing parades and traveling. Each day from start to finish has been mapped out almost to the minute and he will have few of his walking hours to himself.

Although he has made it clear that he is not going west to talk partisanship politics, his trip is regarded as of political significance. He is to make fourteen speeches, which will deal with public questions figuring in party platforms, and he will declare his beliefs in regard to them. During the trip he will also hold many conferences with political leaders in the west.

First Speech at Utica. Col. Roosevelt is to make the first speech of his trip today at Summit park, near Utica. Instead of leaving the train at Utica, as had been planned, he will go direct to Oriskany, nine miles from Utica and proceed by automobile to Summit park, a mile away. There he will speak to the farmers of Herkimer and Oneida counties who are holding a picnic at the park today.

He will spend the night at the country home in Mohawk, Herkimer county, of Douglass Robinson of New York, his brother-in-law, remaining there until shortly before his car leaves Utica at midnight tomorrow night. Then he will proceed with no stops until Cheyenne, Wyo., where he will make his second speech at the Frontier Carnival. During the entire trip he will travel 5,493 miles.

Preparations to Receive Him. Preparations are everywhere being made to receive Col. Roosevelt. At many towns and cities where no special stops are scheduled, committees have been appointed to greet Mr. Roosevelt, who is expected to make numerous speeches from the rear platform of his car.

Mr. Roosevelt, accompanied by William B. Howland, Ernest Hamlin Abbott, Harold J. Howland and Frank Harper, his secretary, will travel in the private car Republic. A car filled with newspaper men starts with the Republic from New York and carries seventeen representatives of news agencies and newspapers. Another newspaper car will be added at Chicago, making a total of about thirty-five reporters, who will travel with the colonel on this trip.

The three special cars will be attached to regular passenger trains. The train arrangements for the entire trip have been made by E. J. O'Hayes, Jr., general passenger agent of the New York Central, who accompanies the party.

Helena, Aug. 23.—Governor Edwin L. Norris has ordered out four companies of the Montana National guard to assist in fighting forest fires in various sections of the state. These are the two companies at Kallispell, one at Lewiston and one in Bozeman, which, together with the company at Libby, makes a total of five companies thus engaged.

This is the gist of a report made by the governor today to President Taft in response to a query as to what the state was doing in the matter of endeavoring to conquer the fires which are wreaking such havoc in the north-west. Governor Norris also submitted an epitome of his Libby trip to Private Secretary Alken over the long-distance telephone this morning.

Mr. Alken had forwarded to Governor Norris at Libby the appeals from Lewiston and Bozeman for troops to assist in quelling the fires, and last evening at Kallispell the executive not only ordered out those companies, but the two in that city as well.

Governor Norris made a direct reply to President Taft at Beverly as to what Montana is doing.

Governor Norris informed Mr. Alken that the towns of Troy, Sylvan and Libby were threatened, but that he did not regard the situation as absolutely dangerous. Just prior to leaving Libby yesterday afternoon the wind veered and made the Libby situation more dangerous, but he was still hopeful.

The situation in Flathead and Lincoln counties is anything but encouraging according to the governor, the fires being so numerous and the timber in sections so dry that fighting them is a most Herculean task.

Rain is the only salvation to the situation, and the forecast is not very encouraging. The loss has been heavy, but not total, as burned over timber is not deprived of its merchantable value if it can be cut within a year or two. The smaller growth, however, is as a rule totally destroyed.

Los Angeles, Cal., Aug. 23.—Whether 60,000 acres of the Palo Verde valley is overgrown or desert land and the property of the state or the federal government, will be decided finally by a hearing which began yesterday before United States Surveyor General Archer. The state of California and the United States government are aligned against each other in the case on behalf of two sets of claimants who have filed on the lands.

One set of claimants want to buy the land from the state, asserting that it is overgrown or swamp land, and therefore the property of the state. The other claimants seek to establish themselves as desert entrants. The state is represented by Attorney General U. S. Webb and the government by Special Agent G. W. Helms.

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Much damage was done by the heavy rain, sewers being choked and many basements flooded. There was a drop of 12 degrees in the temperature in less than an hour. At 1 a. m. the thermometer registered 80 degrees, and at 2 a. m. the mercury had dropped to 68.

The storm was central over northern Wisconsin, and from Janesville came reports of heavy damage by wind and rain.

Although no reports of marine disasters have reached the life-saving stations along Lake Michigan, it is feared that the suddenness of the storm on the lake may have caused distress to shipping.

Yesterday was one of the most uncomfortable days experienced by the Chicagoans in years, owing to the oppressive humidity. It was announced by the weather bureau that the humidity was from 6 to 10 per cent higher during the day than the average relative humidity in August for six years. The maximum temperature for the day was 90 degrees.

KILLED IN COLLISION. Hagerstown, Md., Aug. 23.—Three men were killed and six injured in a head-on freight collision on the western Maryland railroad near Edgewood last night.

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New York, Aug. 23.—Mayor Gaynor expected to remain a couple of hours out of bed today, sitting in his arm chair and walking about his room.

None of his attending physicians remained with him last night.

WESTERN CANADA CROP.

Winnipeg, Man., Aug. 23.—The official estimate of the Western Canada crop was announced today as: wheat 101,250,000 bushels; oats 108,250,000; barley, 17,000,000; flax, 4,000,000.

The declaration was taken to mean by politicians that he now proposed to go to the convention at Saratoga and make his fight against the "Old

Land Case
IN COURT

State or Federal Govern- ment Ownership to Be Decided

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STRANGE ARTICLES

Found in Stomach of Man Who Died in Illinois Hospital